

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An earplug including a foam body and a detectable insert completely encased by the foam body. The earplug is manufactured by forming a channel in the foam body and placing the detectable insert in the channel. The channel is formed by deforming the foam body using a punch. The foam body is made from a slow recovery foam which returns to its original shape thereby encapsulating the detectable insert within the foam body. In an alternative embodiment, the insert is projected into the foam body and the foam body recovers to encapsulate the insert.